

## INFORMATION SHEET

### 2018-2019 Volunteer Service Awards – The President’s Volunteer Service Award and The Las Lomas High School Service Award

**What is the President’s Volunteer Service Award?** The President’s Volunteer Service Award is a highly coveted award that recognizes the contributions of volunteers who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

**What is the Las Lomas High School Service Award?** Similar to the President’s Volunteer Service Award, the award recognizes students with significant volunteer service hours that fall short of achieving the President’s award levels.

**What are the service award levels?** The table below shows the award level earned by service hour totals. **The age category is determined by your age at the of the 12-month period reported.** Students with service hours both before and after turning 16 years may consider reporting only the hours served up to their 16th birthday in order to qualify for the Teen (under 16) category.

#### President’s Volunteer Service and Award

Age Category	Las Lomas Award	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Teens (ages 11-15)	25 hours	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ Hours
Young Adults (ages 16-25)	25 hours	100-174	175-249 hours	250+ Hours

*All hours by age category must be in a 12-month period and not overlap with prior award time period*

#### **What are the qualifications?**

- Service hours must be unpaid and must not earn school credit.
- Service hours must not include court-ordered community service.
- Service hours related to political lobbying or political campaign work do not count.
- Service hours for religious instruction or worship do not count.
- Service hours must be for an organization that is U.S./Puerto Rico-based.

Service outside the U.S. can qualify if the service is for a U.S./Puerto Rico-based organization.

- The President’s Volunteer Service Award is awarded only to U.S. citizens and legal residents; there are no residency restrictions to earn the Las Lomas Service Award.

## **How do I apply for a service award?**

Information and application forms are found on the Las Lomas website under Students/Volunteer Service Awards. Application packages are due each year the week after Spring Break. Students are responsible for keeping an hours log and obtaining supervisor signatures upon completion of each service activity throughout the year. Some specific application requirements:

- A daily log including date and hours worked is required for service activities greater than 1 week.
- All hours must be verified and signed by an authorized representative of the organization. The student's parent may not verify their own child's hours. The signature may be on the Las Lomas separate document on the organization's letterhead stationery.
- Do not record hours on the President's Award website.

## **When do I apply for a service award?**

In April you will see a notice. You will turn in ALL forms after Spring Break.

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*What are some examples of qualified service activities?*

### Qualifying Service Examples

- Las Lomas Peer Tutoring (not for school credit or a grade)
- Sports Med Volunteering (beyond class requirement)
- Las Lomas Garden or other community garden work
- Contra Costa Food Bank
- Habitat for Humanity
- Monument Crisis Center
- Boy Scout & Girl Scout Volunteer Service
- Hospitals
- Museums (Chabot Space & Science Center)
- Special Olympics
- Search & Rescue
- National Charity League or Boys Team Charity
- **Mission Trips (Organization must be based in the U.S./Puerto Rico)**
- Voter Registration

### Non-Qualifying Service Examples

- Court-ordered community service
- Politically-related lobbying or campaign work
  - Religious instruction
  - Religious worship
  - Peer Tutoring for a grade
  - Sports Med Volunteer hours required for class grade
  - **Volunteering outside of the U.S. for an organization based outside the U.S. or Puerto Rico**

Are there guidelines around what service activities qualify? Below is some guidance by different categories of whether an activity qualifies for volunteer service hours (as opposed to an extracurricular activity for the student's benefit). Following are some clarifying examples:

Organization Category	Guidance
<p>Volunteer Service through Organizations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Court-ordered community service</li> <li>● Politically-related lobbying or campaign work</li> <li>● Religious instruction</li> <li>● Religious worship</li> <li>● Peer Tutoring for a grade</li> <li>● Sports Med Volunteer hours required for class grade</li> <li>● Volunteering outside of the U.S. for an organization based outside the U.S. or Puerto Rico</li> </ul>	<p>Volunteer hours count as long as they are active volunteer hours. Hours for meetings, events and financial donations will not receive credit. You will not receive credit for hours worked by others supporting your project.</p>
<p>Performing Arts (Drama/Choir/Band)</p>	<p>Most performance time is considered extra-curricular and does not count. Performing at a community event or fundraiser for free (e.g., Lafayette Fun Run) is considered service hours if there is no school credit and no payment. Performing at church or a school musical would not count as it would be considered extra-curricular.</p>
<p>Camps</p>	<p>Students volunteering at an overnight camp should only include hours in which they are actively working. Meals, sleeping, and non-active volunteer time would not count.</p>
<p>Mission Trips</p>	<p>Only active volunteer hours count. You may not include hours spent traveling, sleeping, eating, team-bonding, etc.</p>
<p>Religious Organizations</p>	<p>Activities benefiting those outside the religious organization are eligible (e.g, food banks, Winter Nights shelter) while activities benefiting the religious organization or considered extra-curricular (e.g., choir, youth group, altar boy/girl) do not. Any hours involving religious instruction or conducting worship service do not qualify.</p>
<p>Political Activities and Voter Registration</p>	<p>Political lobbying or campaign work does not qualify.</p>

	Non-partisan voter registration is eligible.
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Where can I get ideas of Volunteer Service activities? Some ideas and organization links will be available on the Las Lomas website under Students/Volunteer Service Awards.